the amount of calamity that still exists under

the amount of calamity that still exists under every possible form in this country, in consequence of prosecutions which are going on, though there executions have been stopped, presents a spectacle almost equally appalling.

While the German cabinets have succeeded within the last year in prostrating the efforts of the German nation to unite as one people in the body politic, and in removing the new constitution and the National Assembly, they have not yet been able to fill the blank, by any constitution or project, which was to restore the former state of things upon a new foundation. The old Bund has lost the ground under its feet; and, though a new government of the same has been created in the interim, or committee of confederation, which has already taken its seat at Frankfort, no one, least of all the cabinets themselves, believes that the present arrangement will be anything but a provisional one. A definitive settlement between the cabinets is yet to be come to on the question of the Bund; and it remains to be seen how it will be possible to recencile the claims now put forward by the different parties. Though all cabinets are united on one point, viz., that the old régeme is to be restored, the altered position in which they, especially the two great powers, Austria and Prussia, find themselves, will render the settlement of the question a most difficult one. Prussia now de facto possesses the severeignty over the mnor powers; while Austria, closely allied with Russia, will not give up her claim to the headship of the Bund or confederation. The convocation, too, of the Reichstag to Erlurt is not likely to make the soution of the question more easy; and, though a complete understanding exists between the cabinets. solution of the question more easy; and, though a complete understanding exists between the casinets with regard to all measures which may be necessary to suppress popular liberties and re-establish absolutism, there is as httle prospect as ever that the affairs of Germany will at last be definitively settled.

> Berlin, January S, 1850. Speculations on German Affairs.

The invasion of Russia in Western Europe, or rather, as it is called in diplomatic language, the Russian intervention, was the first great step by which the existing order of things on this continent, the law of the European nations, such as it had been hitherto observed and universally recognized, has been set at naught and trodden in the dust. The old treaties, on which the political system of Europe was founded, and the contracts which existed between the different nations, and by which an artificial balance of power and the peace of Europe were secured, are now either no peace of Europe were secured, are now either no longer held binding, or have been de facto dissolved. Wherever we turn in Europe, we find confidence in the maintenance of those treaties and the preservation of peace shaken to its very foundation; and the renewal of the compact between the states of Europe is now declared to be indispensable, even by those who had first sought their only salvation in the restoration of absolutism. After the fruitless negotiations that have taken place during the past year between the cabinets on the German, the Danish, the Turkish, and every other question which has been pending, it has become evident that the affairs of Europe cannot be settled but by a new convention of the delegates of all European States; and the idea of such a convention or congress of diplomais has been much and repeatedly discussed in every part of Europe. But, though a definitive arrangement between the great powers will doubless be come to at a later period, the cabinets of Europe do not metend to do so for the present. There is, on the contrary, every appearance that great events will yet have to take place ere this. The schemes and plans of cabinet pelicy, long meditated, will have first to be carried into effect. Russia, which is about to take the affairs of Europe under her own especial care, will, previous to a more general arrangement, realise her favorute project of the extension of her territory towards the south, over the old empare of Turkey, and to the Mediterranean. We have lately received intelligence, that all disposable forces of Russian troops are being concentrated along the frontier of Turkey; and that the troops huterto stationed in Poland have received orders to remove to the lower Danube, while Austrian troops have already entered that kingdoen, a part of which is said to have taken up quarters at Crenstochan, and the rest to have been forwarded by railway into the interior of Poland. Matters have come to such a pass, that Austrian troops are allegand in the latter by means of a dip onger held binding, or have been de facto dissolved. Wherever we turn in Europe, we find con-

England, France and Prussia,

against Russia and Austria, which purposed to check the advances now made by the Czar on Western Europe. A kind of opposition league, it is stated, is to be formed against Russia by the western powers, to emancipate Europe from the state of bondage in which it is held by the Emperor Nicholas. It will be almost needless to say that these numers, which have been circulated for some time by the press, are wholly unfounded; and a glance at the present position of affairs will be sufficient to show that such an adiance at the present mement is highly improbable. The present government of Prusias is a sworn ally of the Czar; the government of Prusias is a sworn ally of the Czar; the government of Prusias is a sworn ally of the Czar; the government of Prusias is a sworn all of the Czar; the government of Prusias is a sworn all of the Czar; the government of Prusias is a sworn ally of the Czar; the government of Prusias is a sworn ally of the Czar; the government of Europe, the head of which is the Emperor Nicholas himself.

The newly spopinted committee of confederation, at Frankfort, or central power of Germany, has entered upon its duties and functions, and, by the programme which has recently been published in the paper selected as its official organ, we are enabled to judge what will be the policy the same will follow in the affairs of Germany. Besides the direction of all the concerns that relate to the Bund, the maintenance of peace with foreign nations and foreign States, we are told that the committee is to have exclusive power in all matters that come within the range of the general surveillance of the police in the States, so lar as the security of the governments of the so-called confederation may be concerned. It is to have the control, likewise, over such institutions in the different States from which any danger for the general peace might be apprehended; and it is to have the control, likewise, over such institutions, may be proposed by the constitution, partial ments, for that confederation, which have

The President's Message.

[From the Liverpool Mercury, Jan. 11.]

After many a preliminary ineffectual struggle, the United States Congress has, at length, organized itself; and, on the 24th of last month, President Taylor delivered his first annual message to both chambers. The document, which we have elsewhere given in full, is pointed, and, on the whole, satisfactory. It breathes throughout peace and prosperity. So far as Eagland is concerned, nothing could be better than the spirit which it displays. The dolomatic imbroglio, relative to the seizure of the Tigge island, is not so much as alluded to, from which we may infer that the President regards the affair as too insignificant to be submitted to the notice of the legislature. With respect to the great undertaking of an inter-oceanic communication, by canal, between the Atlantic and the Pacific, President Taylor entertains the most liberal and enlightened views. He is anxious that it should be open to the commerce of all nations, on equal terms. But, wishing for no exclusive powers or privileges to American citizens, he will concede none to the subjects of other States. We regret to perceive that his sentiments on the subject of the tariff somewhat inchine to protection, though the interests of the revenue are ostensibly put foremost. We do not think, however, that Congress will adopt the General's opinions in this matter. The great fact which comes out from this message is, that America is at peace, and desires to be so, with the whole world; and the best guarantee for such good intentions we take to be a wardefieit, which is to be provided for by a war loin.

The opening sentence in the third paragraph of the message is as fina a specimen of a bull as we have seen for some time. "We are at peace with all the world," says the President, "and we seek to maintain our cherished relations with the rest of mankind." It has been suggested that this bull must have been approved by the cabinet for the purpose of catching the Firsh vote.

[From the Liverpool Mail

Why should cotton be brought four thousand miles to England, to be spun and weven in Lancashire, and be carried some three or four thousand miles more to the United States to be consumed?

We cannot see any reason for it. It is true that England has had the start in manufactures, thanks to the wisdom of better statesmen than those of the present day; but what right has she to expect to be always first in the race? The Americans are not only justified in protecting their own interests, but, as the President says, "it is the right and duty of Congress to encourage domestic industry, which is the great source of national as well as individual wealth and prosperity." Sounder policy never was broached—truer words never were uttered.

Most probably we shall hear Lord John Rassell, or Mr. Labouchere, boasting early in the ensuing session of Parliament of the increased export of manufactures to America, in consequence of the free trade is corn. We shall watch him. In consequence of imported corn? No such thing. In consequence of the expected revision of the tariff. That is the great fact. The United States are at this moment absolutely glutted with British manufactures, sent out chiefly on Manchester account. There are some mercantile houses in Liverpool who could give valuable information on this important subject; but it is their policy to be silent. This contemplated tariff was known in Manchester many months ago. It was for "augmented revenue" from a heavier tariff, that General Taylor was elevated to the Presidentship. For the last two or three years the manufacturing prosperity of the Northern States was checked by British chearness; the capitalists of those States complained to the office of chief magistrate.

It is quite possible that the Southern slavers will remonstrate and threaten. It will be all a vain show. They are morally weak, whatever they may be numerically, in the Senate and House of Representatives. If they defeat the manufacturing section, who have their whole fortunes at taske, the latter would i

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH BETWEEN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—The concession, signed by Louis Napoleon and the Minister of the Interior, M. Defaure, granting to Messrs. J. Brett, Toché and Co., the right to establish an electric telegraph line between France and England, by a submarine communication across the Channel, arrived in town on Monday. The company propose to establish, by means of the electric telegraph, an instant communication between the two countries. The patentee guarantees that this telegraph shall, by the aid of a single wire, and of two percons only (the one stationed in France, and the other in England), be capable of printing, in elear Roman type (on paper), 100 messages, of fifteen words each, including addresses and signatures, all ready for delivery, in 100 colsecutive minutes.—London St. ndard, Jan. 5

The Pracial States Congress has, a Longit evaluation of the Congress has a Longit evaluation of the Lon

mouces, a mode of thought which will readily furnish patriotic excuses for acts of badfatth, even more indefensible than those ascribed to Mr. Squier.

Stavery in the American Congess.

[From the Liverpool Mercury of January 4]

Whatever abstract advantages may be supposed to attach to that constitutional law of the United States which makes the election of a Speaker for the House of Representatives contingent on more than a simple majority of votes, its practical inconveniences and anomalous action at a time when parties are nearly balanced, and party spirit runs high, must be admitted on all hands. How strange it seems to us, who manage these things so differently, that the popular representative body at Washington should sit and deliberate for a full formight on the preliminary question of the choice of a chairman, and after about sixty ballotings be as far off as ever from getting themselves organized, so as to be able to proceed to the despatch of business! The office is, indeed, one which carries with it more weight and influence than that of Speaker of the English House of Commons; for, according to the usages of the Federal Legislature, the President of the second chamber of Congress nominates the different committees, whose duties consist in preliminarily reporting on all measures brought before the House; and though these committees cannot control the will, they may yet indirectly bias the judgment of the Assembly. In this view, the great question of slavery being one which is likely to assume a practical form in the present Congress, the conflicting parties of the North and South are naturally anxious to secure the return of a Speaker favorable to their opinions. Hence the House stoops, as a member justly complained, to "make a grave issue of a ceremonial matter," and to subordinate national interests to a party contest. Mr. Brown, the democratic candidate, supported by the Southerners, had obtained, in the course of the ballotings, within one of the requisite number of suffrages, and his trumph over

mediate dissolution of the Union, should the attempt be made. In such an issue, Mr. Meade "trusted in God that his eyes had already rested on the last Speaker. The South," said he, "would resist all aggressions, and the sinews of every man's arm in that section would be steel."

We are no alarmists in this conjuncture. The American Union will stand a great deal of rough wear and tear. Its predicted disruption by a class of discontented politicians, forably reminds us of the frequency with which, in this country, we have been summoned by a tory faction to behold the "setting sun" of England and the British constitution. But though we see no reason for apprehending the imminency of a crisis in the fortunes of the Union, it cannot be denied that this slavery question has involved the confederation in very grave and complicated difficulties. This unfortunate result is directly traceable to that almost judicial blindness which made American statesmen tadifferent to the relations of the white and colored races. That slavery could be a permanent form of society in the heart of a Christian civilization, was never, of course, imagined by any man whose judgment was entitled to the slightest respect. And yet the chiefs of party and leaders of public opinion in America, were content to shirk the question, and to regulate their policy in the matter by the thoughtless and indolent maxim of the laisses-faire political hack—"it will last my time." The consequence is, that, in place of seasonable arrangements being made, in harmony with the tendencies of the age, for the gradual emancipation of the slave, an accursed institution has been permitted silently to develope itself, until the course of events and the current of public opinion threaten to precipitate the settlement of a question which, above all others, should be deliberately encountered with calm wisdom, not committed to the storms of passion and prejudice. If Mr. Clay would but amend his plan of manumission, by rendering its action more immediate, it seems highly pro

The Financial and Commercial Gondition of the United States—The View in England.

From the London Times, Jan. 11.]

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury to the Congress of the United States will be found to be a decument of even higher importance than Gen. Taylor's messaga, for we are more deeply interested in the course to be given to the financial and commercial policy of the United States will be recited in the course to be given to the interaction of the minimum than the recital of its military achievements or its diplomatic relations; and while these subjects have been discussed with studious reserve, the interactions of the present administration upon the questions of insance and protection, are stated and defended with the tumost minuteness. We regret that on neither of these topics can we record that assent to the principles of the American government which we have unfergredly expressed with reference to the political message of the President.

The financial condition and prospects of the Union may be stated in a few figures. The cost of the Mexican war, as exhibited by the excess of military and maya expenditure in the three years from the 1st of April, 1846, to the 1st of April, 1849, over the three preceding years, may be roundly stated at sixty-three millions of dollars, of which forty-nine millions have been paid by loans and notes already issued, and fifthe remainder has been defrayed out of the current revenue. But in addition to this permanent and precise charge, there is a considerable deficiency on the estimates of the current year, which will amount to 16,375,214 dollars by the 1st of July, 1851. To provide against this liability, the President requires authority to raise another loan not exceeding sixteen militions and a half of dollars.

To a certain extent these financial exigencies would undoubtedly justify the augmentations of the import duties which are recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury, because the American government has in reality no other financial resource for inc

not most striking manner by the subsequent remarks he makes upon foreign trade. If, indeed, he held that foreign trade is not one of the most essential elements of national greatness, or thought with the Chinese statesmen that it is only by grace and favor that outer barbarrans are to be allowed to frequent American ports, there would be some appearance of consistency in his system. But while he absolately deprecates the importation both of raw produce and of manufactures, he professes to open views for the unlimited extension of foreign trade. The annual products of the United States have been estimated at about three thousand million dollars; the annual creation of wealth in Great Britain (we know not so what authority, and we question the accuracy of this comparison) at about two thousand five hundred milions of dollars; but the outward and inward trade of the Union is 219 millions; that of Great Britain 520 millions. Hence Mr. Meredith inters that if or foreign trade were brought down to the American scale, it would be reduced to about 183 millions and if theirs were raised to our scale, it would reach about 624 millions.

But in discussing this subject, and framing these calculations, Mr. Meredith seems to have lost eight altogether of the elementary traft, that connerce is only another word for exchange; and whilst he projects a stupendous increase of commerce is only another word for exchange; and whilst he projects a stupendous increase of commerce is only another word for exchange; and whilst he projects a stupendous increase of commerce is only another word for exchange; and whilst he projects a stupendous increase of commerce is only another word for exchange; and whilst he projects a stupendous increase of commerce is only another word for exchange; and whilst he projects and the manufactured with the meanufactured with the same affects of the American famer, would be totally without the meanufactured at the following the project of the American famer, would be totally without the meanufacture of Eu

ship, Mr. Cobb, was allowed to take the chair, an ithe nonly by a plurality of votes, no by an absolute majority of the whole House. The government has, therefore, no majority at its command in the Senate or in the Hogge of Representatives; and, under such circumstances, we can hardly comprehend the policy of recommending measures which obviously require the full support of the Legislature. It is an unfortunate circumstance in the relations of American politics with this country, that whilst we are naturally inclined by conviction and by tradition to coincide with the opinions and policy of the whig or federalist party in the Northern States, especially on the great questions of peace, slavery, and internal order, yet it is in the South, with all its aggressive tendencies and its connection with slavery, that we find the nearest approximation to our own commercial doctrines, and the surest defence of our common mercantic interests. We must, therefore, disclaim all party predilections in American politics, and while we applaud the efforts of the government to maintain the great principles of neutrality abroad and union at home, we confidently hope that it will fail in its attempt to subject the commercial relations of great nations to a narrow and restrictive policy, as injurious to the United States as it is to ourselves, and especially injurious to that spirit of amicable intercourse which it is the best policy of both governments to protect, to extend, and to cherish.

The California Mystery

From the Loadon Times, January 4]

A view of the new year would hardly be complete without a glimpes of Californa. At the commencement of 1819 the eyes of commercial and political speculators were directed towards the remote and mysterious city of San Francisco, with greater interest than towards any capital of Europe. Reasons had been shown for anticipating that most serious and irresistible of all revolutions—a revolution in the value of the precious merals, and in the monetary and financial system of the world. The difference between the 16th and 15th centuries, between the slays of Lord Bacen and the days of Warwick, the king-maker, had undoubtedly resulted from discoveries of the same kind, and of no larger promise. So productive were the mines of America, that Spanish viceroys did actually ride over a pavement of solid silver upon mules shod with the same precious metal, and the piles of plate on the sideboards of Castilian grandees were literally reached by silver ladders, in some cases lourteen or fifteen feet high. These are not mere symbolical exaggerations, but plain facts, credibly recorded; and yet, even such lacts were surpassed by the prospects opened in California. Gold was represented as discoverable in quantities hitherto unknown even in the case of silver; and the entire surface of the country was described as equivalent to one of those bonanzas, or veins of native metal, for which the miners of Potosi returned public thanksgivings. A whole year has now elapsed since these marvellous sources of wealth nave been in full operation, and we are in possession of good materials for revising our judgment.

There is always artwofold direction given to the influence of such discoveries as these. In the present case the results concerned not only the supply of precious metals, but the colonization of a new and scarcely accessible region. As regards the first of those points, the groundwork of truth has proved really very considerable. Gold is actually found, and doubtless still exists in large quantiti

months, though, no doubt, gold dust has been amassed and concealed to a large amount, by individual speculators. These hoards, however, must find their way late circulation, and operate upon the currency just as surely, though at less certain intervals than the regular exports; and all that can be said is, that though time enough, considering the quick returns of this speculation, has elapsed for the exemplification of such practices, the contributions from this source have been even more scanty than from any other. According to the estimates, at least one-half of those who left England for the diggings, last winter, ought to have now returned with lortunes. How many have done so to Torning, however, to the other side of the story, we find far more positive and remarkable results. The probability is that a sum at least equaling the largest importation ever anneipated from California has been despatched to it, and has been consumed in introducing this strange province into the community of commercial States. Reckoning the costs of outlits, living, shipping, time and labor, it has been computed that capital to the amount of £20,000,000 sterling has been exported during the last twelve months to San Francisco, from the United States alone; and as only £5,000,000 sterling has been received during the same period in the shape of gold dust, there remains a balance against California of £14,000,000 upon the year. But this balance, whatever it may be, has not been wholly ill spent. A powerful impulse has been given to the spirit of enterprise and to many branches of trade. In particular, the discovery has operated with such singular effect on the hitherto impassive races of the Pacific Islands and China, that it can hardly be unreasonable to anticipate a partial extension of the influence even to Japan. No natures seem inaccessible to the charms of gold. Again, the colonization of this extremity of the western world must necessarily induce the califuration of much of the intervening territory, nor can the vast inventio

Extension of the Supprace in Great Bertain.

—Various rumors have appeared in the London papers, during the last few weeks, respecting a proposed extension of the suffrage, but we have not been able to trace any of these rumors to an authentic source. The Weekly Chronicle, which has lately contained a number of semi-official announcements, and which is to have special opportunities of obtaining early information respecting the intentions of government, has the following paragraph on the subject, in Saturday's publication:

— "We have great pleasure in being enabled to announce that amongst the sarilest measures to be submitted to Farliament by the government, in the ensuing session, will be bills to provide an extension of the suffrage both in England and Iroland. We are not in possession of the details, but we have reason to hope that the scope of the proposed measure will meet the views of a large section of the really liberal members. It is not improbable that a reform of such importance will be recommended in a speech from the throne."—

Liverpool Mercury, Jan. 8.

Arrival of the West India and Pacific Malis in England—Ocean Steam Navigation. [From the London Times, Jan. 11.]

The steamship Avon. Leutenant Hast, R.N., commander, arrived at Southampton (England) on the 10th instant, with the usual British and Foreign. West India mails.

The Avon also brings mails from the west coast of Notice America, received at Foaman on the 2thn-of Notice America, and the 2thn-of Notice Ameri from the whole of Spanish America, the Pacine, and the West Indies to Europe, will be retained in its legitimate channel; and prosperity and success can only be anticipated for this company, if a line of policy be adopted equalling in energy and enterprise that displayed by our American rivals in the important and vasily increasing commerce of the west.

We have received by this steamer our accountations of the steamer our accountations of the steamer our accountations.

We have received by this steamer our accounta-frem Valoaraiso, which extend to the 30th of Oc-tober. The steamer New Granada arrived at that port from the northward on the 25th, with specie value \$339.504 in silver from Copiapo and gold dust from San Francisco.

port from the northward on the 25th, with species value \$339.504 in silver from Copiapo and gold dust from San Francisco.

From Santiago, Chili, we learn that considerable sales of British goods had been effected. In politics little of importance had occurred. The President convoked the Chambers in an extraordinary sitting-on the 12th of October, for the investigation and approval of the financial estimates and for other matters. The Senate approved every item and granted an additional supply in several branches of the expenditure. The budget for the interior had also been approved, and would grobably pass the Chamber of Deputies, who, however, were reserving an attack on the government respecting the budget of the war department. A discussion had arisen in the deputies concerning the ment of a new law on public schools, founded on a plan adopted in the United States in the state of Massachusetts, and the project was returned to the committee for reconsideration. The country was in a prosperous position. Railroads are to be constructed, and lines of telegraph made, besides other public works carried out, which it was expected would give the republic an impetus fully a half century in advance of her present position.

The British and other merchants in Valparaiso were very anxious for more frequent and rapid steam communication with Great Britain, and, in the event of not being able to obtain such facilities, were proposing to memorialize the government of the United States to cetablish a line of mail steamers between Valparaiso and Panama. Should, however, the new scheme of steam communication by the government) be carried out, it is probable that the requirements of the mercantile community in the South Pacific ports will be fully met, as the new plan embraces a three-weekly mail to and from Valparaiso and the intermediate ports to Panama, and to and from the Spanish Main, Mexico, and Havana, instead of \$150,000, by Messar. Wheelwright and Edward. The line is intended to run from Copiano to Caldem, a distance

delay.

Her Majesty's ship Champion arrived at Panama on the 25th of November, from the west coast of North America, with a freight of nearly \$1,000,000 on board for England. It was too late for the Avon, and we are not informed whether this specie will come by the next steamer or remain on board the Champion, for a voyage round Cape Horn to England.

By the way of Panama of the state of the way of Panama of the North American Cape Horn to England.

board the Champton, for a voyage round Cape Horn to England.

By the way of Panama we have dates from Port Philip, Australia, to the 19th of September. The past season had been very favorable for the wool growers shearing had commenced in many quarters, with every prospect of a large and heavy elip. The colony was rapidly improving under the influence of emigration, and many works which were necessarily abandoned, owing to the searcity of labor, were being carried out, and much new land also was brought into cultivation. Emigrants were eagerly sought for and engaged at high wages. On the 17th of September a heavy fell of source took place in Melourne, covering the ground to the daptheof six inches. Such an occurrence was before unknown to the inhabitants. Heavy floods and much damage had been the consequence.